

cults, Hitler, and even devil worship is wrong, out of touch, and needs some common sense.

It is time for Congress to look in the mirror, and it is time for Congress to allow local school boards to make those decisions.

TIME FOR REFORM OF THE SATELLITE HOME VIEWERS ACT

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, the Second Congressional District of Nevada is a vast area containing about 110,000 square miles and 1.2 million people, many of whom are spread out over a large portion of rural Nevada.

So today I rise to support meaningful reform of the Satellite Home Viewers Act. Every American, no matter where they live, deserves access to their local television networks. Our office has received thousands of phone calls and letters from frustrated constituents in my home State. These honest, hard-working Nevadans are frustrated over the current Federal law which prevents them from receiving local programming with a satellite dish. They often ask, "Why will the Federal Government not let me watch my local news?" The only answer is because of outdated, misconstrued Federal regulations.

We need to reform the Satellite Home Viewers Act to reflect the changes in technology, to change the mistakes of the Federal Government and adhere to the needs of the American people. Today I urge my colleagues to join me in helping reform the Satellite Home Viewers Act.

WE MUST NOT PRIVATIZE SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, conservatives in the Republican Party are proposing that Congress privatize Social Security, turning it over to Wall Street, even though Social Security will be solvent at least until 2034.

Privatization in many parts of government has simply gone too far. The purpose of public prisons, for example, is to protect the public, to punish and to rehabilitate. The purpose of privatized prisons is to maximize profit by reducing staff and too often cutting back on security. The purpose of public medical systems is to provide the best health care possible to all people. The purpose of privatized medical systems is to maximize profit, often meaning that the quality of care is compromised.

The purpose of a public pension system, a public Social Security system is to provide a bedrock source of income for the elderly to keep them out of poverty. A privatized Social Security sys-

tem would end that guaranteed income.

Mr. Speaker, we must not privatize Social Security. Let us keep Social Security the very important public program that it has been for 60 years.

MILITARY READINESS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, the dishonest demagoguery about Social Security has begun. However, I continue to be troubled by the state of our military readiness. For years the Clinton administration has reduced spending for national defense while sending our troops on more and more deployments. The result, our military readiness has declined.

Case in point: A Lieutenant Junior Grade in our Navy was recently quoted as saying, and I quote, "It took us two days to complete what should have been a two-hour procedure for all of these reasons: We could not get a hydraulic test stand that worked correctly. The support equipment people could not fix the hydraulic test stand because they did not have the correct publications. The publications had not been updated to reflect the new tool requirements. Nobody knew how to operate the new test equipment. If we do not have the people or tools to fix the aircraft, then the aircraft cannot fly."

Mr. Speaker, we need to commit to restoring our military to a level capable of defending the United States of America. We need to support our troops, our young sons and daughters who lay their lives on the line to defend this great country.

WELCOME TO DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY

(Mrs. JONES of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated to Delta Days on Capitol Hill. If my colleagues will look up in the viewing area, there are some 550 Deltas here on the Hill. This is our tenth anniversary, and we have come to talk about issues that impact the African American community. Delta Sigma Theta is a sorority of 180,000 women nationwide with some 900 chapters.

Our colors are crimson and cream and red and white. Our national president is Marcia Fudge. The head of our Social Action Committee is Devarieste Curry.

There are two Members of the House that are members of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. They are my colleague, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) and myself. On behalf of the Congress, we welcome you to the Hill and we hope to hear all you have to tell us.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman is reminded not to refer to the gallery, but to address the Chair.

KEEP U.S. TROOPS OUT OF KOSOVO

(Mr. KUYKENDALL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share some thoughts of one of my 12-year-old constituents on Kosovo, and I quote:

"I would like to know why our government is thinking about sending troops to Kosovo. This sounds a lot like a Vietnam type of war which lasted 9 years. I am 12 now, and if this lasts for 6 more years, then I might be drafted and have to go to war. In my parents' generation almost everyone knows someone who served in the Vietnam War. Not too many people speak highly of our involvement in Vietnam. I want to be a successful person and a good citizen when I grow up. I want to uphold those great ideals I read about in Washington, D.C. that our Founding Fathers set down in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, as well as many other places. I would like my country to be seen as doing the 'right thing' or fighting for a 'noble' cause. Right now in Kosovo it does not look like that to all of the nations of the world.

"I visited the Vietnam War Memorial and the Korean War Memorial and toured Arlington National Cemetery. I saw monuments to thousands of Americans who gave their lives for freedom. My father spoke with me about the meaning of these monuments and the sacrifices Americans made during these conflicts. How Kosovo a part of that duty?"

To Justin Kawahara, I say that is an excellent question.

COMMITMENT TO END VIOLENCE IN OUR NATION

(Mr. MARKEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, the tragedy in Colorado has saddened our country and has highlighted a deadly mix of violent imagery and guns. Addressing the cumulative effects of years of violent imagery means addressing issues on TV, in the movies, and on the Internet.

Dealing with children's access to guns and explosive materials is something we must do as a society. An effective, proactive response must include a willingness on the part of industry leaders to deal pragmatically with access to certain content on the Internet.